REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies.

Support for each amended claim is found at the correspondingly numbered original claim and throughout the specification.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-21 will be active.

No new matter is believed to have been added.

An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. Norman F. Oblon

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 08/03)

NFO:CJA\la

Charles J. Andres, Ph.D. Registration No. 57,537